

TILLICH

(A)
1. Notes on Conversation with Reuter

On 2 September Reuter gave me a one and one-half hour interview, of which one hour was devoted to the Kampfgruppe, and one-fourth hour to the Union for Cultural Assistance (Vereinigung für kulturelle Hilfe) and "Bundles for the East Zone" (Päckchenhilfe Ost), and the remaining time to the situation in the SPD.

I informed Reuter of our desire to enter into discussions to reach an agreement re fitting the Kampfgruppe into the general policy course of the government. Reuter designated as his representative Dr. Friedrich, head of the Berlin Verfassungsschutz, with whom I am to have a preliminary talk before I go on vacation. On my return, Reuter, Friedrich and I are to discuss the whole matter together.

Reuter said, among other things, that he deemed it incorrect to mix together agent activity in the East Zone and political work. He had opposed the KPD mixing these together at the time he was General Secretary of the KPD. He strongly advised a separation of East Zone illegal activity from the Kampfgruppe's political and social work in Berlin and the West Zones. I told him we were not opposed to this but that technical and psychological difficulties existed re the people who come to see us from the East Zone or who were organizationally tied to us. Reuter did not reproach the Kampfgruppe for past activity, but expressed his personal opinion that the lives of the decent elements in the East Zone must be protected as strongly as possible.

He also asked what our American friends really wanted from the Kampfgruppe. He had asked this of a high-ranking American before he went on vacation but got nothing informative. I replied that our work was well known and that apart from our social work we conducted psychological warfare.

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Discussion of the other subjects, also on a friendly basis, was highlighted by Reuter's views on the German and EDC contracts. I stated I was strongly opposed to Schumacher's view and the SPD line. Reuter replied that he had always basically agreed with Schumacher on these points, and believed the contracts should not be signed. (Please treat this extraordinary and frightening expression of opinion confidentially.)

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